(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 22 September 2005 (22.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/087023 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7: A61K 31/688, 31/164, 31/133, A61P 3/10 A23L 1/30,

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(21) International Application Number:

PCT/NL2005/000193

- (22) International Filing Date: 15 March 2005 (15.03.2005)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:

04075848.4 16 March 2004 (16.03.2004) EP 04077088.5 19 July 2004 (19.07.2004) EP

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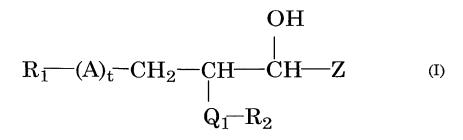
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ,TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: THE USE OF SPHINGOLIPIDS IN THE TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF TYPE 2 DIABETES MELLITUS, INSULIN RESISTANCE AND METABOLIC SYNDROME



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the use of sphingolipids for the preparation of a food item, a food supplement and/or a medicament for the treatment and/or prevention of insulin resistance, diabetes mellitus type 2 and/or Metabolic Syndrome. In particular, the invention relates to the use of a sphingolipid with the general formula (I): wherein Z is R₃ or -CH(OH)-R₃; A is sulphate, sulphonate, phosphote or -C(O)O-; R_1 is H, hydroxyl, alditol, aldose, an alcohol, C_1 - C_6 alkyl or amino acid; R_2 $is\ H\ or\ unsaturated\ or\ saturated\ or\ saturated\ (C_1-C_{30})\ alkyl\ chain;\ R_3\ is\ unsaturated\ or\ saturated\ (C_1-C_{30})\ alkyl\ chain;\ Q_1\ is\ a\ primary\ amine\ group\ (C_1$ (-NH₂), secondary amine group (-NH-) or an amide group (-NH-CO-); and t is 0 or 1, or a precursor, a derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of a disorder selected from the group consisting of insulin resistance, diabetes type 2 and Metabolic Syndrome.

